

Battleground National Cemetery Restoration Project



Superintendent's Lodge circa 1907

The 150th anniversary of the only Civil War battle fought within the nation's capital, the Battle of Fort Stevens, is approaching in 2014. To prepare, Rock Creek Park has been granted \$1.2 million of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to rehabilitate the Superintendent's Lodge and Rostrum at this site, Battleground National Cemetery. Dedicated by Abraham Lincoln in 1864, the cemetery is the resting place for 40 Union soldiers who died during the two-day battle at nearby Fort Stevens.

The Superintendent's Lodge was designed from standardized plans by Montgomery C. Meigs, Quartermaster General for the Union Army. The Lodge served as the home and office for successive superintendents until 1934. Meigs' own staff helped defend Washington during the Battle of Fort Stevens by helping to man nearby Fort Slocum. In 1921 the marble rostrum was dedicated to honor the men who fought in the Battle of Fort Stevens, more than 50 years prior.

Historic Restoration Work Plan

Rostrum Repairs (ceremonial structure)

- repair ceiling and repaint columns
- re-point stone and abate and repaint wood cornices
- repair roof and redesign drainage system
- replace portions of concrete slab and stairs

Superintendent's Lodge Repairs

- replace slate and metal roof
- remove non-historic features, such as vinyl windows
- rehabilitate historic interior, up-grade utilities and install fire suppression system
- restoration of historic interior paint colors
- replacement of gutters, downspouts and drainage system
- repaint mortar and repair sandstone